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fectly distinct from *Traillii* and *minimus*, between which Mr. Maynard misconceives it to stand. As an example of the faulty reasoning with which we must charge the author, we may cite the case he presents of *E. minimus*. Finding a certain amount of variation in the proportions of the quills, he assumes that the wing-formula is *entirely* unreliable; which is not the case. If, for example, he had said of *E. minimus* "second, third and fourth quills subequal and longest, fifth little shorter, first and sixth subequal and shortest," he would have laid down a formula by which the species is always distinguishable from *Acadicus** (not from *Traillii*, however). Reverting to a matter of more consequence, we should note that in the localities visited by Mr. Maynard "the Alleghanian and Canadian faunæ meet. . . Starting on the north-eastern coast of Maine, near Mt. Desert, the dividing line of these faunæ proceeds in a southwesterly direction along the southern margin of the mountain range which stretches across the state to the White Mountains. Here it declines to the south, reaching even to Rye Beach. Then once more proceeds northwest along the western borders of the mountain range into Vermont. . . So abruptly is the line defined in many places by the range of mountains, that some birds which occur in abundance on one side are found only as stragglers, or not at all on the other."

For the numerous typographical errors which deface the paper we understand that the author cannot be held responsible, since he had no opportunity of revising the proofs. The paper itself is such a forcible commentary upon the inexcusably faulty practice, by far too common, and quite needlessly so, of printing scientific matter without author's revise, that we refrain from the sermon which nevertheless we are strongly inclined to preach on this occasion. — E. C.

ANNALS OF BEE CULTURE.† — This annual contains several essays of great interest and value to bee keepers; they are all good, and some of sterling value, and apparently above the average of articles appearing in the ordinary bee journals. Its ap-

*The formula of *Acadicus* is: second and third quills subequal and longest, fourth little if any shorter, first and fifth subequal and much shorter, sixth much shorter still.

† Annals of Bee Culture for 1872. A Bee Keeper's Year Book. D. L. Adair, editor. With communications from the best American Apiarists and Naturalists. Louisville, Ky., 1872. 8vo, pp. 64.

pearance encourages us in the hope that bee keeping will be conducted on a more scientific basis than ever before in this country.

UNDERGROUND TREASURES ; HOW AND WHERE TO FIND THEM.* The design of this little book is to make every farmer and land-owner his own mining engineer, and when his knowledge is exhausted to induce him to go to some professional mining engineer for advice. Perhaps the recent diamond swindle demonstrates the need of just such a guide as this. The plan seems well carried out, the descriptions of minerals, ores and gems being terse and clear, and the hints as to how to find them are practical. After describing the eighty minerals which out of two hundred and forty-four found within the United States are of practical use, the author gives chapters on "Prospecting for Diamonds, Gold, Silver, Copper, Lead and Iron," "Mineral Springs," "Artificial Jewelry—How Made and How Detected," "Discovery of Gold in California," and a concluding one on the "Discovery of Silver in Nevada."

BOTANY.

PAST VEGETATION OF THE GLOBE.—Nine years after the publication of Brongniart's "Tableau" Dr. Paterson discovered, in a bituminous shale near Edinburgh, *Pothocites Grantoni*, which has been generally accepted ever since as a monocotyledonous flowering plant. It can therefore no longer be asserted that in the Palæozoic period the higher Phanerogams were absent. Nor can it be even said that, amongst Phanerogams, *Pothocites* belongs to a very primitive type. The condensation of its inflorescence and the reduced structure of its flowers imply, on any hypothesis of evolution, the previous existence of flowering plants which had undergone less differentiation. Indeed, for anything that can be positively said to the contrary, there may have been during the Carboniferous epoch a phanerogamic covering to the earth hardly less complicated than there is now. Our knowledge of the vegetation of that time is confined to the forests of arborescent Cryptogams fringing the deltas of great rivers. Stems of coniferous trees were occasionally floated down from the higher ground ; of the plants that grew with them we know nothing.

* Underground Treasures: How and Where to Find Them. A Key for the Ready Examination of all the Useful Minerals within the United States. By Prof. James Orton. Illustrated. Hartford, Conn. Worthington, Dustin & Co. 1872. 12mo, pp. 137.